

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated January 6, 2006 (and the underlying Restriction Requirement dated September 26, 2005), Applicants hereby elect the claims associated with Group I and Group II for prosecution, consistent with Paragraph 7 of the Examiner's Restriction Requirement dated September 26, 2005, which states in relevant part "NOTE: inventions I and II are to be treated together and chosen as one if the applicant elects to prosecute them." Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that their earlier withdrawal of the claims associated with Group II (claims 13-24) be rescinded, and that certain of those claims be reinstated in accordance with this election.

Applicants elect the species shown in Figures 4 and 5 for prosecution at this time. Applicants respectfully submit that paragraph 9 of the Restriction Requirement issued by the Office on September 26, 2005 erroneously listed only two species for possible election, namely, "Species a: Box beam" as shown in Figure 8, and "Species b: I Beam" as shown in Figure 9. Applicants respectfully request that their election of the species shown in Figures 4 and 5 be honored as a proper election of a third species. Applicants further elect "sub-species i: co-planar mounting," as required in paragraph 10 of the Restriction Requirement dated September 26, 2005.

As a result of Applicants' elections of Groups I and II, the species shown in Figures 4 and 5, and sub-species i: co-planar mounting, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-5, 10, 13-17, and 22 have been elected for prosecution at this time.

Applicants request that all other claims be withdrawn from consideration without prejudice to possible reinstatement following substantive prosecution of the elected claims, or possible prosecution in subsequent continuation or divisional applications. If there are any questions regarding this application, or any matters that may be handled by telephone conference, the Examiner is kindly invited to telephone the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dated: _____

March 6, 2006

By: _____

Dale C. Barr

Dale C. Barr
Lee & Hayes, PLLC
Reg. No. 40,498
(206) 315-4001 x106